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The Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

Senior Review Panel

NIC-01386-87
13 April 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Director of Central Intelligence
Chairman, National Intelligence Council
NIO for USSR
Acting NIO for Europe

SUBJECT: Senior Review Panel Comments on Draft
Concept Paper and Terms of Reference (TOR)
for NIE 11/12-9-87: Soviet Policy Toward
Eastern Europe Under Gorbachev, internally
dated 7 April 1987

1. We think these are first-rate drafts--clear, well-organized, and incisive. They should support an outstanding analysis of one of the most crucial aspects of Soviet foreign policy under Gorbachev. As we are so often seen to be critical, we would, in this instance, like to cite as particularly well done: (a) the Scope Note's perceptive appraisal of NIE 12-84; (b) the Concept Paper's Key Questions, which are both comprehensive and strongly estimative; (c) TOR, which integrate the Key Questions, develop a persuasive analytical approach to the chief intelligence issues, and set out the product plainly. The Panel found the drafts a pleasure to read and believes they might well serve as model forms.

2. We have at this point only one suggestion:

Alternative Environments. Broadly, we suppose international and European conditions will develop through the early 1990s under situations of diminished, intensified, or static tensions--marked by concluded or aborted agreements on arms reduction, regional conflicts, human rights, and bilateral exchanges (and conceivably encompassing US-Soviet, NATO-WP, OECD-CEMA, or all-European relations). The

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implications of the resulting atmospherics might vary widely, and would be complex. We wonder if it might not be useful to examine briefly (perhaps in a concluding section) some of their alternative effects on Gorbachev's policies toward Eastern Europe over the next few years.



William Leonhart



John B. McPherson



Richard L. Walker

cc: VC/NIC (Mr. Fuller)
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